

We'll Make the Rules!

Ponyboy, Sodapop, and Darry Curtis live without their parents. As you remember from your reading, Mr. and Mrs. Curtis were killed in an automobile accident. The three boys have been told they can stay together as long as they stay out of trouble.

It would be tragic to lose your parents. But what if your parents decided to leave you alone for a month while they traveled? In the very unlikely event that this would happen, could you get along without them?

For this activity, you will need to work in a cooperative learning group of three or four people. You will be required to do the following things:

- Assign jobs to each group member. Some jobs must be household jobs, others must supply income. Each group member must have both a household and an income job.
- Plan the meals you would eat in a typical week (7 days) for breakfast, lunch, and dinner. Decide on the responsibilities for each meal.
- Determine what you will do for transportation, as none of you can drive legally.
- Determine a set of "house" rules, including such things as "lights out," "visiting hours," "conflict management," and "television time." Make your list as long as you think necessary.
- Plan a schedule of school-night and weekend night activities. Decide how homework will be handled efficiently.
- Determine the procedure you will follow in an emergency. You cannot call your parents.
- Anticipate the problems you might have without adult supervision. Plan ahead with ways you could handle these problems.



Add any other ideas you and your group have. Perhaps you want to draft a letter to your parents to let them know how you are doing!